



DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR

ANDREA J. CABRAL
SECRETARY

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
Department of Fire Services

P.O. Box 1025 ~ State Road

Stow, Massachusetts 01775

(978) 567~3100 Fax: (978) 567~3121

www.mass.gov/dfs



STEPHEN D. COAN
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Memorandum

To: Heads of Fire Department

From: Stephen D. Coan
State Fire Marshal

Date: March 1, 2014

RE: Proposed "New" Comprehensive Fire Code


I am pleased to advise you, that the Board of Fire Prevention Regulations (BFPR) voted at its February 6, 2014 meeting to begin the promulgation process for the proposed new Comprehensive Model Fire Code, which will take the place of the current 527 CMR. While we still have many steps prior to its implementation, now is the time to be reviewing the document. While the Board, its committee's and staff have worked diligently to develop this document, an informal comment period is open and I encourage you to review this document and provide any comments early in the process.

The information is provided below and can be found on our web site: www.mass.gov/dfs.

Comprehensive Model Fire Code

The Board of Fire Prevention Regulations (BFPR) and the Department of Fire Services are working to develop a comprehensive model fire code for Massachusetts. The board recently voted to initiate the promulgation process and eventual adoption of a substantially revised Massachusetts Fire Safety Code (527 CMR). The new code adopts, in large part, the National Fire Prevention Association's (NFPA) Model Fire Code (NFPA-1- 2012 Edition), with the retention or creation of certain provisions unique to Massachusetts. The adoption of the new code should result in an improved, more comprehensive fire safety code, using consensus standards recognized throughout the nation.


Public Comment Period

The board has created a draft proposed state fire code which is NFPA 1 with the Massachusetts amendments and the public comment period is now open through March 21, 2014. The preliminary amendment report [Proposed MA Model Fire Code](#)  file size 2MB contains the BFPR Front End Amendments [FEA] to NFPA 1, 2012 edition that have been proposed.

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How to Submit Comments

Before initiating the formal, statutory regulatory hearing and adoption process, the board is inviting interested persons to informally review the draft regulations and submit any technical suggestions or remarks by Thursday, March 21, 2014.

All written comments should be submitted to: richard.fredette@massmail.state.ma.us using the [Public Comment Form](#) .

If you have any further questions or comments please contact either:

Richard Fredette at 978-567-3713 or by email at richard.fredette@massmail.state.ma.us

Timothee Rodrique at 978-567-3301 or by email at timothee.rodrique@state.ma.us